THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Because of lower procurement of wheat and rice than their requirement under TPDS, welfare schemes and for calamity relief etc., the buffer stock of wheat and rice available in the Central Pool on 01.01.2008 has been less than the minimum buffer norms. Therefore, available stocks for allocation to APL category during 2008-09 are less, although for the accepted numbers of BPL and AAY families under the TPDS, the stocks likely to become available in the Central Pool would enable full allocation @ 35 kg/per family/per month.

Allocation of rice to Kerala

1593. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government has reduced the quantity of rice allocated to Kerala, through public distribution system;

(b)if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c)whether the Government of Kerala has requested for enhancing the rice allocation to Kerala; and

(d)if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A uniform decision to rationalize rice allocation from the Central Pool stocks for the APL category under the Targeted Public Distribution System has been implemented *w.e.f.* April 2007 on the basis of a particular State's maximum monthly offtake during last three years *i.e.* 2003-04; 2004-05 and 2005-06. This has been made applicable to all States, including Kerala.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The Government has made an adhoc/additional/festival of allocation of 51,000 MT of rice and 83,778 MT of wheat to State of Kerala during the current year in addition to normal allocations made under the TPDS.

Irregularities in supply of ration

† 1594. MS; SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government has received complaints regarding irregularities in the supply of ration especially in supply of wheat and rice given to BPL in the different States of the country including Haryana;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether investigation has been conducted against the guilty officers; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.